

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

All this month the television folks have been busy revising their address books for 1968, adding some names and scratching out others. Those on the "in" list receive renewal notices; those who are "out" are advised that their shows have been canceled.

These are social matters of the highest importance to Hollywood hostesses who must know to whom to pass the sandwiches at the next party. The arbiters of taste in this instance are the 1,100 families of the Nielsen Rating Service whose preferences determine who gets thumbs up and who, thumbs down.

Over at NBC they're canceling "Maya," "Accidental Family" and "The Man From 'UNCLE" thereby throwing out of work a nightclub come-

dian, a secret agent, and an elephant. Their replacements in Hollywood's social register are an old English private eye, a daytime game show, and two 1953 proteges of Ed Sullivan.

IT DOES seem a bad trade—especially for elephant watchers who must now rely entirely on "Tarzan," "Daktari," "Cowboy in Africa," and reruns of "Bhowani Junction" with Ava Gardner. I think NBC should be warned that elephants never forget and if they doubt it just take a look at that last scene of "Elephant Walk."

"Maya's" pink slip is effective Feb. 24 when she is replaced by a series of new adventures of "The Saint" with ravishing Roger Moore. The eviction of Jerry Van

Dyke's "Accidental Family" will make it possible for NBC's daytime celebrity game "Hollywood Squares" to be played after dark starting Jan. 12.

THE BIG surprise is "Man from 'UNCLE" which has been slipping in popularity recently, but looking on the bright side, its demise will free Robert Vaughn to pursue his political career in Democratic party circles which is said to cause considerably greater enthusiasm among Republicans than among Democrats.

The replacement for "UNCLE" is a comedy hour with Rowan and Martin who successfully sneak-previewed their act last September while Vaughn was off somewhere making a political speech. The title will be "Rowan and Martin's Laugh-in." Starting date: mid-January.

QUOTE of the Week: (From Jerry Lewis in reply to the charge in Mexican newspapers that he behaved badly at the Acapulca Film Festival): "Blasphemy!" A dictionary definition reveals that Lewis does indeed select his words with the greatest care: "Blasphemy — an impious utterance concerning God or sacred things..."

Vaya con Dios, Señor Lewis!

LAST SEASON NET gave a soap box to Timothy Leary to extol the virtues of LSD. The show was criticized by me as a one-way pitch for a dangerous drug presented without debate. The other night Leary was given another opportunity to sing his old siren song. Surely no other country has ever given similar freedom to a person who is out on bond to enlist recruits among the unwary. This time, fortunately, he was opposed in debate by a keener mind, that of Jerome Lettvin, MIT physiology professor, in an exchange taped on the MIT campus. On this program Leary went into his now-familiar act, but after a healthy roasting by Lettvin did an almost about-face. It's a little late and a little sad for those he has hooked but for the undecided this may have been most enlightening.

Rock Bands Will Clash In Contest

The Lomita Recreation Center's second "Battle of the Bands" has been rescheduled from Dec. 29 to Jan. 5, to avoid conflict with the holiday season.

The battle, to be held from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., will feature eight area bands. Rumors indicate that the winner of the June battle will return to defend its title.

Bands wishing to compete in the contest may contact Bob Ciborowski at the Lomita Recreation Center.

Featured throughout the evening's festivities will be a guest celebrity, whose name will be announced soon.

Tickets may be purchased now at the center or at the door.

Film Scheduled

"The Red Balloon" will be presented in the Children's Room at the Torrance Library at 10:30 Saturday.



BILL OF RIGHTS WEEK . . . El Camino College student leaders join Supervisor Kenneth Hahn in proclaiming the week of Dec. 9 through 15 as "Bill of Rights Week" in Los Angeles. Hahn, acting on a suggestion by the El Camino students' association, proclaimed the special observance "to bring to all citizens' minds the basic rights guaranteed us and to instill a greater love for our American heritage." Pictured are Joe Perez, 25, of Hawthorne; Hahn; Robin Roy, 19, of 4318 Highgrove Ave.; and Jim Mayer, 25, of Manhattan Beach.

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EXTRA FANCY LARGE NAVEL ORANGES

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GARDEN FRESH FOR SALADS OR BOILED DINNERS

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SWEET

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